

AS

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 96-153-C - ORDER NO. 96-536
AUGUST 8, 1996

IN RE: Request of GTE/Contel to Implement 1+) ORDER
Presubscription filed in Compliance) GRANTING
with Commission Order No. 96-324.) WAIVER

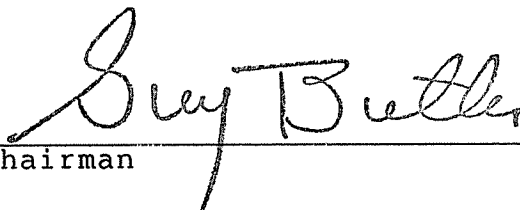
This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the Request for Waiver by GTE South, Inc. (GTE or the Company) and Contel of South Carolina, Inc. D/B/A GTE (South Carolina) (Contel). In Order No. 96-324, the Commission ordered the implementation of intraLATA 1+ equal access. GTE and Contel subsequently filed a plan for said implementation. The filing included a combined 1+ equal access conversion schedule of technically capable offices in South Carolina, along with tariffs containing rates, terms and conditions for intraLATA equal access cost recovery, PIC changes, and end-user customer lists to be effective concurrent with the initial conversion. Jointly, the companies are requesting a waiver of the Commission subsequent reconsideration order requiring the conversion of 50% of its access lines within the six month time period set out by that Order. GTE and Contel request a waiver to January 1, 1997 for conversion of 50% of their lines, due to technical difficulties in meeting the original Commission deadline of 6 months.

The Commission has examined this matter and holds that the

granting of the Waiver is reasonable. It appears to this Commission that GTE and Contel face various technical problems in the implementation of our 1+ Orders. We do not think an extension until January 1, 1997 would be harmful to the consumers of South Carolina. The initial due date for conversion for 50% of the lines as stated in our reconsideration Order was November 1996 in any event. Because of this reasoning the request for Waiver until January 1, 1997 is hereby granted for both companies.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order by the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director

(SEAL)